## Pine Belt Cellular, Inc.

3984 County Rd. 32 - P.O. Box 279 Arlington, Alabama 36722 Phone (334) 385-5000

## **Via ECFS**

November 30, 2016

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: In the Matter of Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, WC Docket No. 11-42, Notice for Forbearance from Lifeline Broadband Internet Access Service Requirements

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Pursuant to the *Lifeline Modernization Order* ("Order"), Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. ("Pine Belt") hereby avails itself of the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC" or "Commission") grant of forbearance from the requirement to provide broadband Internet access service ("BIAS") as a Lifeline service. Pine Belt may, however, voluntarily decide to offer and receive reimbursement for providing Lifeline-supported BIAS in all or portions of the area in which it is designated an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC"). Pursuant to the guidance provided in Public Notice DA 16-1316, Pine Belt provides the following information:

ETC Name: Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. d/b/a Pine Belt Wireless

ETC Designation Order: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service; Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. and Pine Belt PCS, Inc. Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 9589 (2002).

See Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization et al., WC Docket No. 11-42 et al., Third Report and Order, Further Report and Order, and Order on Reconsideration, 31 FCC Rcd 3962 (2016) ("Lifeline Modernization Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Public Notice, "Wireline Competition Bureau Provides Guidance Regarding Filing Procedures For Eligible Telecommunications Carriers Seeking To Invoke Forbearance Granted By Lifeline Modernization Order," DA 16-1316 (rel. Nov. 22, 2016).

**Type of Designation:** Competitive Eligible Telecommunications Carrier receiving frozen, phased-down high-cost support.

Forbearance Area: Pine Belt avails itself of blanket forbearance throughout the entire geographic area in which it is designated an ETC, which includes Choctaw, Dallas, Marengo, Perry, and Wilcox counties in Alabama. Attachment A is an Excel document listing the 15-digit census blocks, including FIPS codes, for the areas where Pine Belt invokes the Lifeline BIAS forbearance. Pine Belt has made every effort to comprehensively list all census blocks where it is an ETC. In the event that any census blocks were inadvertently omitted from Attachment A, Pine Belt reserves the right to supplement this filing to make administrative corrections to Attachment A.

Please contact our FCC counsel, Greg Whiteaker (202-600-7274) or Robin Tuttle (202-827-0667), if you have any questions regarding this notice.

Sincerely,

John C. Nettles President 334-385-5001 john@pinebelt.net

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## Attachment

cc Universal Service Administrative Company (Via Email, TelcoLifeline@usac.org)